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STATUS SUMMARY

Claims 44-54 and 64-73 are pending in the present Application. Claims 44-54 and 64-73 stand rejected. In this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 44, 48 and 64 and has canceled claims 46, 47, 66 and 67.

EXAMINER INTERVIEW

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the time and consideration spent during a telephonic interview, which transpired on May 2, 2008, between the Examiner and Applicant's attorney David Gloekler. Independent claims 44 and 64 were discussed, as well as the references Shah et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,801,280) and Zuellig et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,126,904). The contentions set forth in the Advisory Action mailed April 8, 2008, were also discussed.

It was agreed that independent claim 44 would be allowable after incorporating the language of claims 46 and 47 into claim 44, and that independent claim 64 would likewise be allowable after incorporating the language of claims 66 and 67 into claim 44. Applicant has amended claims 44 and 64 accordingly, and has canceled claims 46, 47, 66 and 67. Claim 48 has also been amended to change its dependency.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same at this time.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance, and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited. However, if the Examiner believes that the Amendments and Remarks do not place the application in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests that an Advisory Action be mailed at the earliest possible date.

If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to resolve these matters.

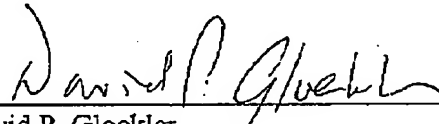
Authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account no. 50-0895 for any fees due in this transaction.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

5/19/08

By:



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